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Gregory Gardziola Sr

Feb 21, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

Share your own thoughts with the SC Public Service Commission:

This rate hike is completely unacceptable. I understand the costs of a business and the need to periodically increase rates, but 3-4 times the cost? I also don't understand why there has to be a mandatory fee. If you use less electricity you're penalized. What about people who can't afford this hike? Even at \$28 a month that's \$336 a year. A hefty sum for some people. What recourse do they have? Before this is even considered the impact to current customers needs to be thoroughly investigated.

Sincerely,
Gregory Gardziola Sr

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